• COLORADO RIVER •

AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

VOLUME XXII JUNE - JULY, 1955 NUMBERS 6 AND 7

The new Garvey Reservoir in the process of being filled with Colorado River water. Located in Monterey Park, the reservoir was placed in service as a part of the Metropolitan Water District distribution system on May 5.

Board Adopts Resolution Opposing Bill Which Would Have Permitted Reservoir Fishing

The District Board of Directors on June 21 adopted a resolution vigorously opposing Assembly Bill 3678 which would have permitted fishing in the District's reservoirs. The resolution also requested the Governor of the State of California to withhold his approval of this bill. Governor Goodwin J. Knight did not sign the bill.

The text of the resolution follows:

"WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a public agency of the State, incorporated for the purpose of engaging in the importation, development and distribution of water for domestic and municipal use, and for that purpose owns and operates numerous reservoirs; and

"WHEREAS, the said Metropolitan Water District now has a population exceeding six million people dependent in whole or in part upon supplemental water furnished by the District, and has an assessed valuation in excess of eight billion dollars; and

"WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District is the body charged with the duty and responsibility of administering the supply of water imported from the Colorado River for use on the coastal plain of Southern California and of protecting the healthfulness of such water and the safety of the public dependent thereon; and

"WHEREAS, the above numbered bill,

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AQUEDUCT NEWS
THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
306 West Third Street
Los Angeles, California

Published monthly in the interest of Field and Office Workers on the Colorado River Aqueduct, and for the information of all other citizens of the Metropolitan Water District.

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Hoover Dam Output Reduced 35 Per Cent

Production of hydroelectric power at the Hoover Dam Power Plant has been reduced to 65 per cent of the regular firm output. The 35 per cent reduction in the generation of electrical energy became effective June 1st in line with an announcement made by U.S. Bureau of Reclamation officials in Boulder City.

The reduction in output from the huge generators in the dam, government officials stated, results from the low level of water in Lake Mead at this time. This low water level has been brought about by the subnormal runoff into the main stream and tributaries of the Colorado River.

The Metropolitan Water District purchases power from Hoover Dam to operate the five Aqueduct pumping plants. The District, 25 years ago, entered into a contract with the Federal Government by which it is committed to purchase 36 per cent of the firm power at the Hoover Dam Power Plant. Only a portion of this power has been required for Aqueduct operating purposes during the years the Aqueduct has been in operation.

The unused portion of the District's power obligation is being disposed of by the government to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, the Southern California Edison Company, and the California Electric Power Company. The District's use of Hoover Dam power is increasing each year in proportion to the constantly increasing quantity of Colorado River water being delivered by the Metropolitan Aqueduct to meet the growing requirements of the millions of people in the District cities and areas.

Reduction of power output at Hoover Dam will not impair the ability of the District to operate its Aqueduct pumping plants as presently required, it has been pointed out by Robert B. Diemer, District General Manager and Chief Engineer.

Governor Signs Bill For District Short Term Notes

The bill authorizing the District Board of Directors to issue short term notes to provide additional funds to carry forward the expansion program has been passed by both Houses of the State Legislature and was signed by Governor Goodwin Knight on June 27.

The passage of this bill will enable the District to move ahead rapidly with the program of enlarging the Colorado River Aqueduct System to meet the increasing demand for Colorado River water in Southern California, according to Robert B. Diemer, General Manager and Chief Engineer.

The notes that will be issued by the District will be repaid from funds derived from annexation charges being paid into the District by areas which have annexed to the District.

The notes, which will be sold at public sale, will have a repayment period not exceeding 12 years and will carry an interest rate not exceeding six percent.

District Resolution

(Continued from Page One)

if approved, would tend to deprive the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of full control of its properties and would call upon the District to perform functions in the supervision of recreational areas beyond its powers and duties; and

"WHEREAS, the proposed bill is discriminatory, in that it exempts from its operation the properties of chartered cities and chartered cities and counties, there being no reasonable basis for such exemption, the possibility of pollution of public water supply not being dependent upon the corporate nature of the public agency controlling such supply; and

"WHEREAS, while there are defenses against the application of the above numbered bill to the operations of the Metropolitan Water District, assertion of such defenses would inevitably result in costly and undesirable litigation:

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, that the Governor of the State of California be, and he hereby is, requested and urged to withhold his approval of the above numbered bill.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forthwith transmitted to the Governor."

For the RECORD

(The following items are noted from the report of General Manager and Chief Engi- Robert B. Diemer, filed June 1955, covering District operations for May 1955.)

Colorado River—The water level in Lake Mead rose 6.14 feet during May to elevation 1095.78 feet and usable storage increased 565,000 acre-feet to 11,836,000, a decrease of 3,500,000 acre-feet during the last 12 months. The average rate of discharge for the month at Hoover Dam was 15,200 cubic feet per second as compared with 14,970 during April. Lake Havasu surface elevation varied from 450.3 to 450.8 feet, and the average rate of discharge at Parker Dam was 13,400 cfs.

Power and Pumping System—Water pumped at Hayfield during the month amounted to 35,733 acre-feet with the plant operating continuously on a 3-pump basis except for 320 minutes during which time it operated on a 2-pump basis.

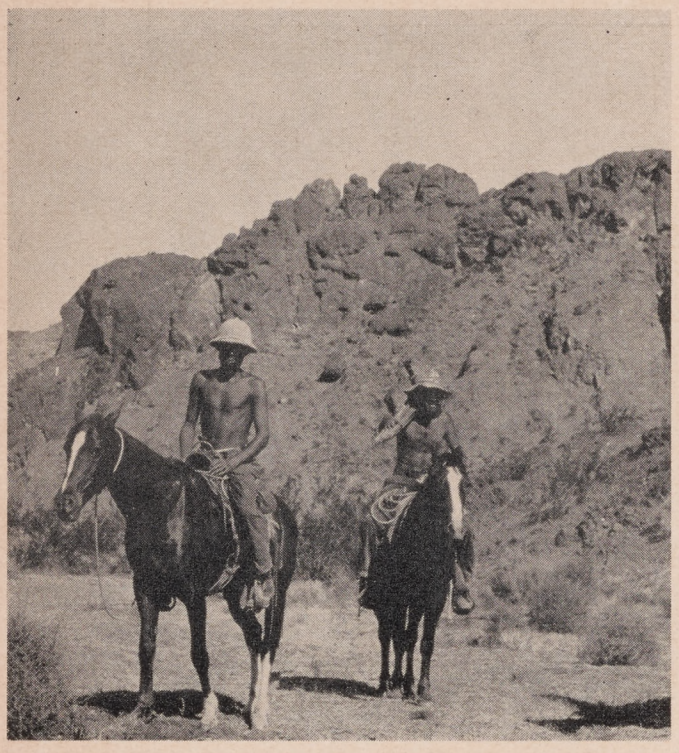
Weymouth Softening and Filtration Plant—Colorado River water was softened from 336 to 126 parts per million at an average rate of 159 cfs. The daily rate of flow varied from 94 to 223 cfs., with a total of 9628 acre-feet treated during the month.

Construction—The contract on the middle cross-feeder and Inglewood lateral is 95 percent complete; the contract on the Cajalco to Corona pipe line is 99 percent complete; and the contract on the pipe line within Corona is 97 percent complete. On the Corona to Santa Ana River Canyon line, the contractor laid 1461 feet of 108-inch concrete pipe for a total to date of 4571 feet and laid and completed 1646 feet of 109-inch steel pipe for a total to date of 3233 feet; 1543 feet of pipe was laid by the contractor on the Santa Ana River Canyon to San Juan tunnel line. San Juan tunnel lining with concrete was started on May 4, and 941 lineal feet was lined during the month.

On pumping plant expansion: At Intake plant, work continued on installation of metal tanks and oil coolers, electrical equipment and District-furnished materials; at Gene Plant, installation of equipment and materials continued; at Iron Mountain plant, installation of concrete piping, tanks and oil coolers, and electrical equipment continued. On pump delivery lines, work at the various plants was 49 percent complete.

Purchasing—Total expenditures covering 344 purchase orders in May approximate $59,182.

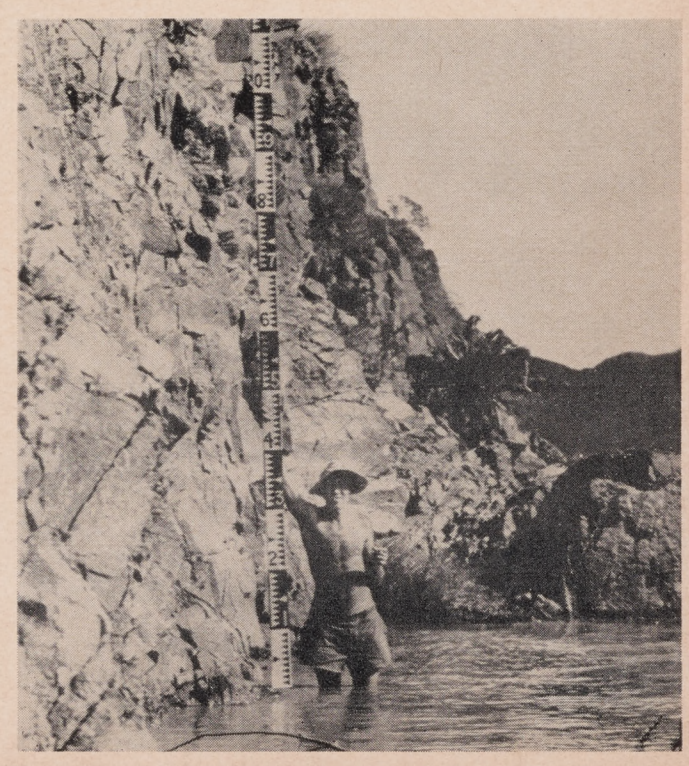
IN 1930 COLORADO RIVER AQUEDUCT WAS BEING PLANNED



Aqueduct surveyors back in 1930 covered some of the rugged mountain country on horseback.

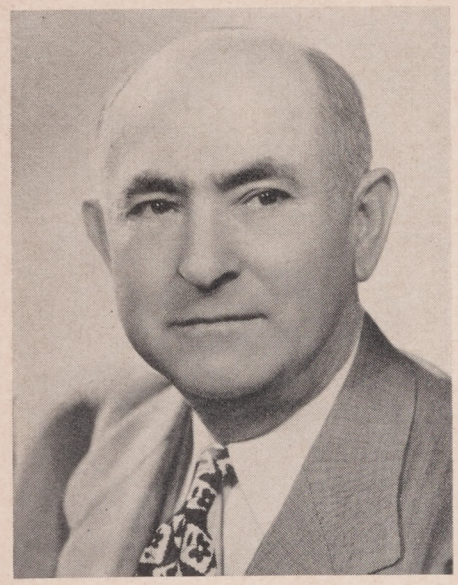
A plane table topographer on the Aqueduct survey job "somewhere" in the desert in 1930.

A section of the old plank road that crossed treacherous stretches of the desert between Desert Center and Rice before the District built surfaced highways along the eastern part of the Aqueduct.

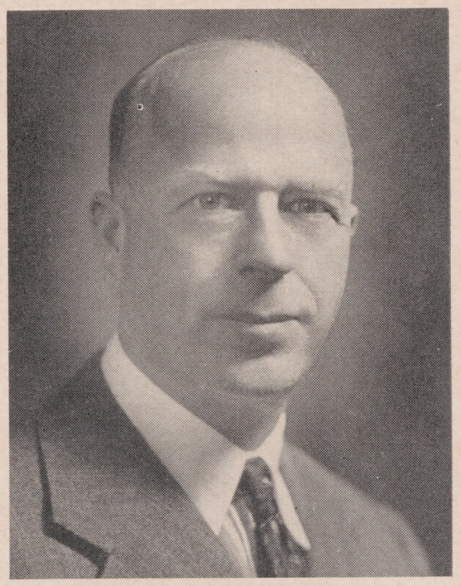


An Aqueduct surveyor on the Colorado River 25 years ago helping to search out the best place for the Aqueduct intake.

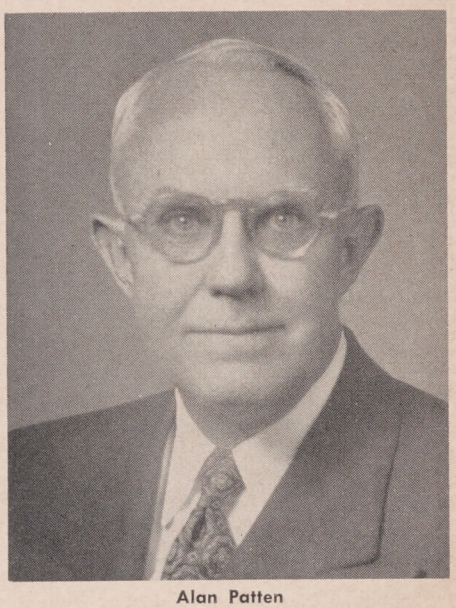
MORE THAN TWENTY-FIVE YEARS IN DISTRICT SERVICE



Robert B. Diemer



A. L. Gram



Alan Patten

Sometime in the near future the first official presentation of 25 year service pins will be made to a group of 12 veteran Aqueducters.

Several of those who will receive 25 year service pins actually have been engaged in work on the Aqueduct project for more than a quarter of a century. Engineering studies and other preliminary work on the project were started by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power in 1923.

Establishment of the Metropolitan Water District was authorized by a vote of the people of 11 Southern California cities in November 1928, and the District formally was organized in December of that year. The District's Board of Directors permanently was organized in February 1929. Somewhat more than a year elapsed before the District received its first tax revenues.

Aqueduct personnel who transferred to the Metropolitan Water District and others were placed on the payroll in May 1930. There was one exception. It was A. L. "Andy" Gram who started his duties as Executive Secretary of the Board of Directors in December 1929.

Those who will be honored by receiving 25 year service pins are the following:

Robert B. Diemer has been engaged in responsible engineering and administrative work in connection with the Colorado River Aqueduct since July of 1929, when he started work on the preliminary studies relating to the selection of the safest, most economical, and most practicable route for the aqueduct system. In April 1935 he was made Distribution Engineer, and in 1941 he became Chief Operation and Maintenance Engineer of the District. In June 1950 Mr. Diemer became Assistant General Manager and Chief Engineer. Since January 1951 he has been General Manager and Chief Engineer. He is a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Civil Engineering.

A Word From Mr. Diemer

I am proud to be one of the group of Aqueducters who have been on the job 25 or more years. It was somewhat more than 25 years ago that I was called by Mr. Frank E. Weymouth to join his organization in the task of conducting the office and field studies upon which was based the final selection of the best, most practicable and most economical route for the Colorado River Aqueduct.

I am happy indeed that I have been privileged to work with the fine men and women in the service of the Metropolitan Water District.

A. L. Gram has been with the Metropolitan Water District since December 1929. Down through his years of service he has held the position of Executive Secretary of the Board of Directors. "Andy" was in the U. S. Naval Reserve from October 1936 to March 1941. He is a graduate of the University of California.

Alan Patten has been with the Metropolitan Water District as an Attorney in the Legal Division since May 1930. In 1943 he was appointed a Deputy General Counsel, in which capacity he has served continuously since that time. Alan spent two years in military service in World War I, first in the Infantry and later as Regimental Sergeant Major in the Judge Advocate's Department. He attended the University of Southern California.

Miriam Taylor entered the District's service in May 1930 as a stenographer in the office of the Executive Secretary. In February 1936 she transferred to the office of the Controller, where she served as Secretary to the Assistant Controller and later as Secretary to the Controller. In 1942 she was appointed Assistant Controller. In May 1943 Miriam enlisted in the U. S. Marines, where she rose to rank of Captain. She returned to her position as Assistant Controller in 1947. She attended Washington State College.

Owen M. Wilson started his experience on preliminary studies of the Colorado River Aqueduct as a Draftsman 'way back in 1926. Since that time he has served the Metropolitan Water District as Assistant Engineer, later as Engineer, and since 1952 he has been a Senior Engineer in the office of the Assistant Chief Engineer. Owen is a graduate of the University of Southern California.

Clayburn C. Elder joined the engineering staff in connection with the planning of the Colorado Aqueduct in April 1929. In May 1930 he became a Senior Engineer. Since 1944 he has been Hydrographic Engineer for the District. In October 1917 "Clay" volunteered in the U.S. Army Engineers. As Pvt. 1st Class he served in this country and in Germany until September 1919. He is a graduate of the University of Utah.

Henry J. Mills came with the District in May 1930 as a Levelman. In January

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Miriam Taylor

Owen M. Wilson

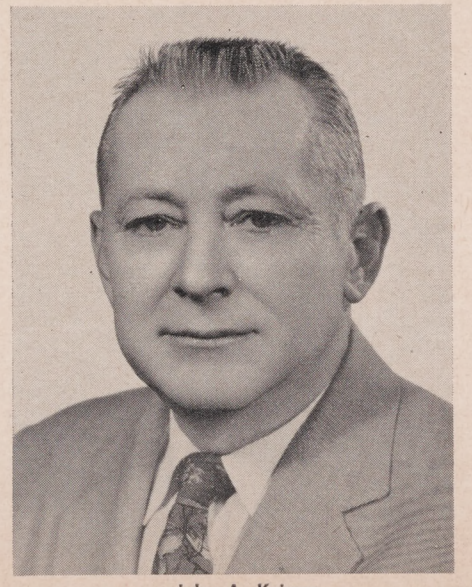
Clayburn C. Elder

Henry J. Mills

Elvira H. Meyrer

Charles R. Witt

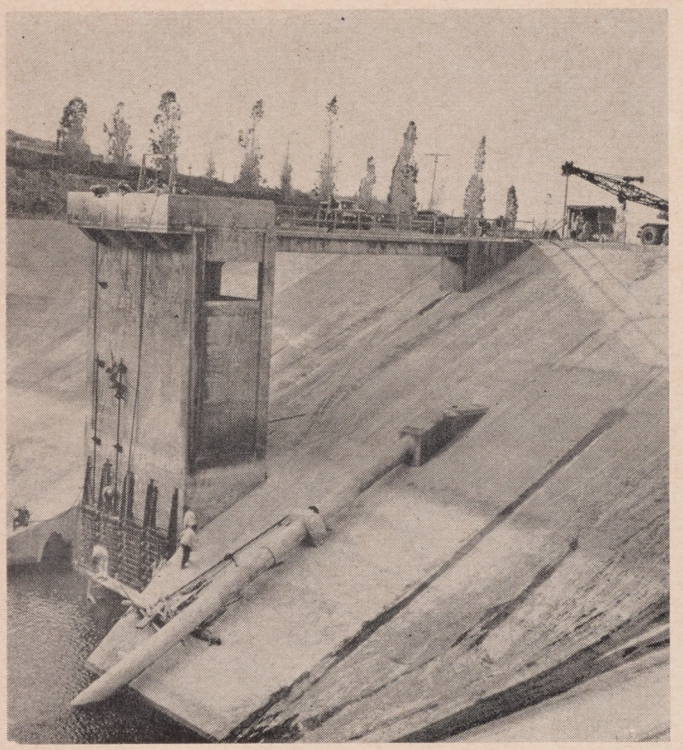
Don J. Kinsey



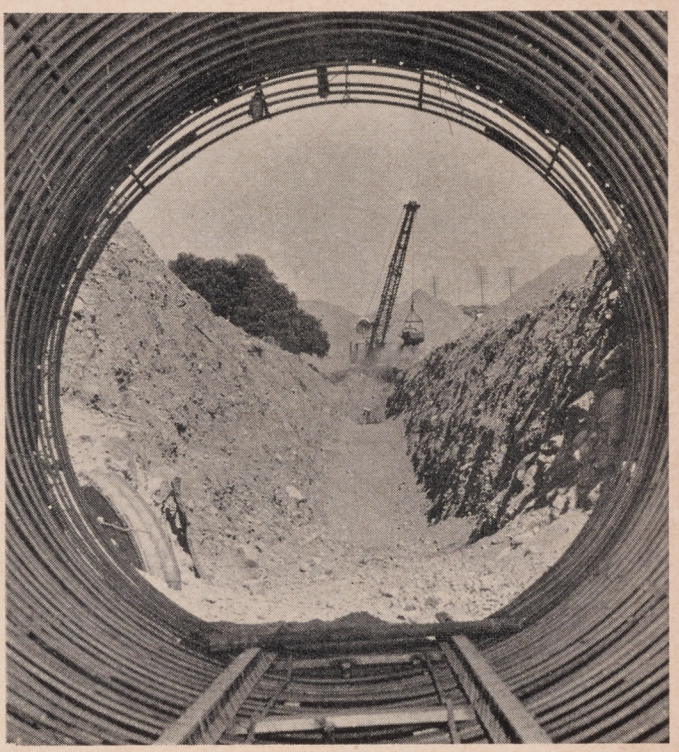
John A. Keigan

Viola Crutcher

IN 1955 AQUEDUCT IS STILL GROWING TO SERVE THE PEOPLE



Workmen are shown installing new gates and trash racks at the headworks at Lake Matthews which now contains about 30 billion gallons of water.



Looking out of a highway tunnel under the Santa Ana Canyon Freeway. The 109 inch diameter welded steel pipe will form a part of the lower feeder.

Two 30 ton rail cranes are needed to hoist this 108 inch pre-cast concrete pipe at the American Pipe Manufacturing Company yards. The pipe will be used on the lower feeder.

A back hoe is shown excavating trench west of Corona while a bulldozer levels the ground to the left. This is a part of the Aqueduct expansion program now under way.

Vice Chairman Warren W. Butler

Warren W. Butler, Vice Chairman of the District's Board of Directors, became eligible for his 20 year pin on June 28 of this year.

Mr. Butler is the representative of the city of Compton on the Board, having served as Board member since 1935 and as Vice Chairman since 1949.

He was re-elected to serve his second term in January 1951; he was re-elected to a third term in January 1953; and this year was again re-elected and is now serving his fourth term as Vice Chairman. Mr. Butler is Chairman of the Water Problems and Public Relations Committee of the District's Board of Directors.

He is Managing Editor of the Herald-American newspapers in southeastern Los Angeles County, and has been engaged in the newspaper business in Southern California for more than 25 years.

Correction

The May issue of the Aqueduct News incorrectly named Mr. Robert A. Skinner as an Assistant Engineer. Mr. Skinner is the Assistant Chief Engineer of the Metropolitan Water District, and has held that position since January 1, 1952. He joined the District on March 6, 1933 and was Office Engineer before being named to his present position.

Director H. W. Stiles

Director Hugh W. Stiles has been appointed Chairman of the Finance and Insurance Committee following the resignation of Director Howard D. Mills as Chairman. Director Mills is continuing as a member of the Committee.

Chairman Jensen

Board Chairman Joseph Jensen has returned to his numerous duties after a lengthy siege of illness and several trips to the hospital.

Mr. Jensen entered the California Lutheran Hospital on January 12 for treatment of a strained back and a physical checkup. During the past five months he made several return trips to the hospital and underwent surgery five times.

He has effected a full recovery and actively has resumed his position as presiding officer of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Jensen was first appointed to the Board in August 1940 as one of the Los Angeles representatives and served until February 1944 when he resigned. He was reappointed in March 1946 and elected Chairman in 1949 after serving the preceding term as Vice Chairman.

25 Years of Service

(Continued From Page Four)

1933 he was made a Junior Engineer, and later he held the positions of Engineer, Assistant to the Chief Operation and Maintenance Engineer, and Construction Engineer in the O&M Division. Since 1952 "Hank" has been Construction and Operation Engineer. He is a graduate of the University of Southern California.

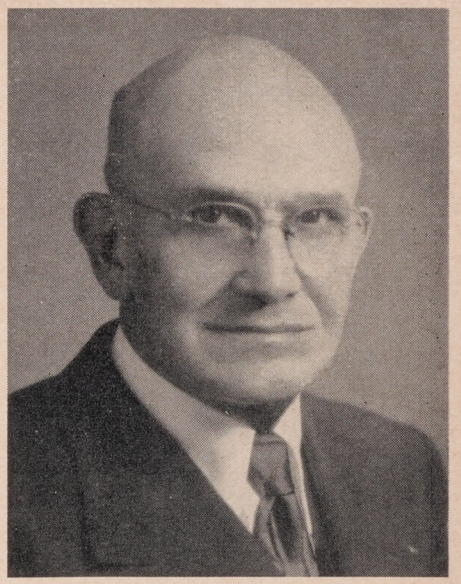
Elvira H. Meyrer started her stenographic work on legal documents for the Metropolitan Water District in May 1930. Elvira has continued to serve variously as Stenographer, Stenographer-Secretary, and Secretary in the Legal Division during her many years with the District.

Charles R. Witt first worked on the Colorado River Aqueduct project as a Chainman in August 1928. From that time until 1942 he served variously as Rodman, Instrumentman, Inspector, and Attendant at the Softening and Filteration Plant. "Ray" was granted military leave from the District in 1942 to enter the service of the U.S.N. (Seebees). In May 1945, he returned to his former position as Attendant at the Softening Plant. He later served as Operator there, and since 1953 he has been an Inspector in the Construction, Field Engineering Division.

Don J. Kinsey has been associated with the Colorado River Aqueduct project since it was set under way. He directed the educational program leading to the vote to establish the Metropolitan Water District in November 1928. He handled the $220,000,000 aqueduct bond campaign in 1931. He has been Assistant to the General Manager since 1932. Since 1947 he has also been General Manager of the Colorado River Association. Don was a 1st Lieut. in the Infantry during 1918 of World War I. He is a graduate of Lake Forest College.

John A. Keigan was first employed in July 1929 as a Messenger in the Mail and Files Division set up in connection with the Colorado River Aqueduct project. From 1933 to 1942 he was a Clerk in the same Division. In November 1942 "Johnny" was transferred to the Office Engineering Division of the District as a Draftsman. Since December 1951 he has been a Junior Engineer in the office of the Assistant Chief Engineer.

Viola Crutcher entered the District's service in May 1930 as a Stenographer in the Accounting Division. In 1942 she transferred to the Miscellaneous Activities Division, where she served as Stenographer-Secretary, and later as General Clerk. Since 1951 Viola has been Personnel and Information Clerk in the Personnel Division.



Director E. P. Hapgood

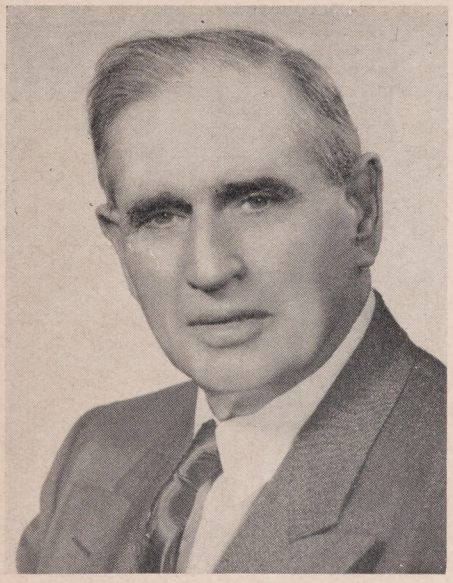
Director E. P. Hapgood received his 20 year pin from the Metropolitan Water District in May of this year, having served as the representative of the City of Anaheim since April 1935.

Following the resignation of Director S. H. Finley of Santa Ana as Secretary of the Board, Mr. Hapgood was appointed to that office on September 15, 1941. He was elected Secretary of the Board in January 1943; he was re-elected January 1945 and continued to serve in that office until January 1947.

He has been a member of the Engineering Committee and later the Engineering and Operations Committee of the Board since July 19, 1935, and has been Chairman of this Committee since April 14, 1953.

He was City Engineer of the City of Anaheim from June 1924 until his retirement in October 1950.

NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE



Colin Monaghan—20 Years Service

Colin Monaghan was first employed by the District as a Chainman in March 1929. He left the District briefly in 1930, returning in December of that year. From that time until 1942 he worked as Rodman, Instrumentman, Inspector, and as Attendant at the Softening and Filtration Plant. In 1942 he resigned, returning again in March 1947. Until December 1952 he worked as Maintenance Man in the O&M Division, at which time he was made an Engineering Aide in the Construction, Field Engineering Division.

* * *

Ben Alexander, Cost Clerk at Gene, and his wife Betty are the happy parents of a baby girl born on June 3 at the Community Hospital in Wickenburg, Arizona. The baby's name is Penelope Ann and she weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces at birth.

* * *

District Los Angeles office employees bade a fond farewell to elevator operator Frank Gillespie on the occasion of his retirement the first of June. They presented him with a handsome set of luggage and a sum of money in appreciation of his unflagging cheerfulness and courtesy.

* * *

Wendell L. Williams, Inspector on the lower feeder, became a father for the third time on May 7 when Mrs. Williams presented him with a 10 pound, 5 ounce baby daughter at St. Joseph's Hospital in Orange, California. The young lady has been named Linda Kay. Wendell and Mrs. Williams also are the parents of another girl and a boy.

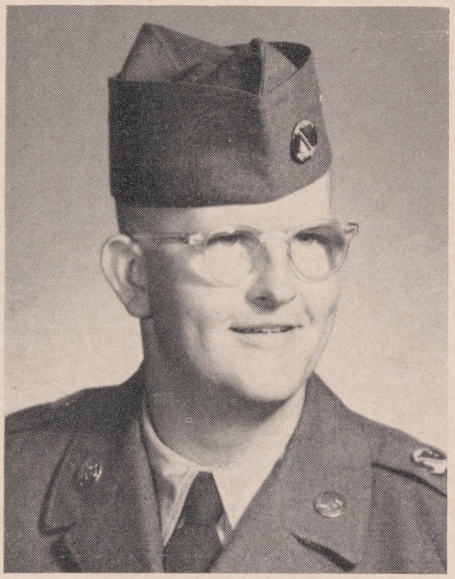
Rufus Fee, Field Secretary, father of two fine lads, is proud of the fact that the older, Jerry, is starring in the Junior Baseball League. Tommy is being coached by Jerry and hopes to be in the thick of things before long, too.

* * *

Gene Camp has a red hot ball team which is entered in the local league with Parker Dam and Parker, Arizona. Jesse Dockery, Maintenance Man, is coach and organizer. On June 12 the Gene team beat Parker Dam 6-3 but lost on June 19 to the Parker, Arizona Desert Rats 4-0.

* * *

Joan Bonelli, daughter of Frieda Bonelli, Mail and File Clerk, was installed as Honored Queen of Job's Daughters at the El Sereno Masonic Temple on June 11 with impressive ceremonies. Mother Frieda isn't very proud. Just beaming, that's all.



Lee Crawshaw

Lee Crawshaw, son of Harry Crawshaw, Office Engineer, is on duty with the Armed Forces in Germany where he is stationed at the 225th Station Hospital in Muenchweiler.

Lee received his basic training at Fort Ord from October 11 to December 18, 1954. After spending the holidays at home he was sent to Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis, Texas until February 26. On March 5, he left New York for Germany. A real celebration is planned for his homecoming some 18 months from now.

Glenn D. Mayhew—20 Years Service

Glenn D. Mayhew has joined the ranks of Aqueducters with 20 years of service. He was first employed on July 11, 1934, as a Laborer at Berdoo camp. He later worked as Labor Foreman, Shift Boss and Concrete Finisher. He was away from the District for about a year, but continuously has been employed since September 1940, first as Maintenance Helper and later as Attendant at the Softening Plant. Since 1946 he has been an Operator at the Plant.

* * *

Mark Gaetjens, Maintenance Helper, has left Lake Mathews to take over his duties at Rio Hondo. Mark and his wife, Thelma, are staying with their daughter in South Pasadena until the Rio Hondo house is completed.

* * *

The patio at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Caudle on Verbena Street in Riverside was the scene of a gay barbecue dinner on Sunday, May 29. Howard, Maintenance Mechanic at Lake Mathews, was chief cook and his wife, Nona, served with Mrs. Ray Milts assisting.

Employees and their families from Lake Mathews joining in the fun included Mr. and Mrs. W. F. McCleary, Mr. and Mrs. Kenny Buffington and sons, Walt Napier, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Love and sons, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Rielly, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Goodman and sons, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wise and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Walt Strout and children, Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Proud and son, and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Milts and children.